



State of Utah

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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 10, 1999

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Anthony A. Gallegos, Senior Reclamation Specialist

RE: Site Inspection, B & W Construction, Radium King Mine, M/037/007, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: June 23, 1999

Time of Inspection: 1034 - 1200

Conditions: Partly cloudy, warm

Participants: Tony Gallegos and Doug Jensen, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the site in response to the operator's request for release.

Prior to this inspection, several unsuccessful attempts were made to contact the operator, Mr. Joe D. Bierschied, to arrange a meeting on site. Access to the site is along a well maintained county road with signs naming it the Radium King road. After arriving at the mine site and comparing the quad map with an older version of the mine map, it was discovered that the road shown on the mine map, matches in shape and profile; however, the location is incorrect. Based on the topography on the quad map, the road on the mine map would be shifted about the distance of one quarter section to the south. This would match the topography much better as shown on the map. The majority of this inspection was spent examining the Radium King East Channel area.

A GPS unit was used to locate a coordinate point on one of the graded waste dumps. This point was labeled as "rad1." This particular waste dump has been regraded to form a rounded mound, however, there was no vegetation on the regraded materials. The waste dump material appears to be very sterile and also has a surface crust which may also attribute to the low invasion of natural vegetation.

This first dump examined is located adjacent to the county road on the east side. There are several other features up the drainage to the northeast from this dump. There are also mine features located to the southwest of the first dump examined. The waste dumps located to the southwest also have little to no vegetation; again, because the dump materials appear to be very sterile. There is a stock watering pond, or a catch basin, located southwest of this initial GPS point and on the west side of the county road.

We proceeded from this first dump following the reclaimed mine disturbance which continues up the drainage to the northeast. Up this drainage is a long regraded area which has some

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vegetation coming in. Up this drainage on the left side (north) is a backfilled portal which has settled or subsided. This subsidence hole is approximately 12 feet in diameter and from six to twelve feet deep depending on which side you were to measure. Looking into the sink hole, it appears that the deep side opens up into a decline. Access into the decline would not be easy without a considerable amount of digging.

Further up the drainage we found another backfilled adit which appears to have settled some, but it is not quite open. There is a wooden powder magazine located above this adit. On a level above this adit is an old car body as a landmark in the photos. Other features near this adit include an amount of wood debris in this upper drainage. On an old access road above this adit there are a number of subsidence or sink holes. Some of these sink holes may be partially due to the clay soils or rock cavities beneath the clays, and not necessarily sink holes due to underground workings.

After examining this area and upper drainage, we next proceeded down to the area located southwest of the county road. The regraded waste dumps are very evident in this area, but again they appear to be mostly devoid of vegetation. There are some minor amounts of vegetation coming in on the fringes of the regraded areas. This vegetation success may be due to the presence of more soils, or where the topography collects more surface water.

Sketches were made of the various segments of the mine site. Photographs were taken of the reclaimed areas to document the current status. The corrected UTM coordinates for the point "rad1" are 568117 E, 4159476 N. The portion of the mine site known as the Radium King West Channel was not examined during this inspection. Division files will need to be reviewed to determine if the site can be fully released.

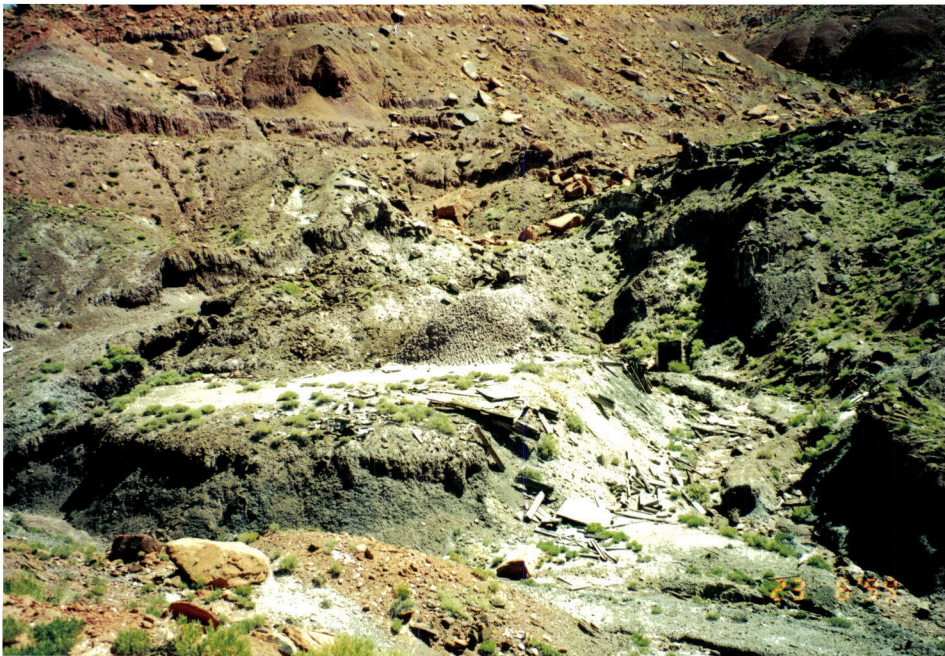
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cc: Joe D. Bierschied, B & W Construction
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